Task Force Phase II Work

Work Topic: Fiscal Issues

Purpose: Clarifying fiscal responsibilities that relate to the new rule, including dual credit.

Summary:

Issue 1 - Montana has rules related to school funding that are based on student enrollment. Dual credit, distance, online, and technology delivered course funding needs to be clarified. (**20-9-311**. Effective July 1, 2007 Calculation of average number belonging (ANB) -- three-year averaging.)

Issue 2 - The "running start" program was established under 20-9-706, MCA, to allow school districts to grant high school credit for students who complete acceptable coursework at postsecondary institutions as determined by the school district. When a student is participating in postsecondary coursework under a running start program for credit at a high school district, the student is enrolled in the high school district for that coursework. This is an instance of "dual credit". (20-9-706. Running start program -- authorizing class credits at postsecondary institution -- eligibility -- payment for credits.)

Main Issue: Clarification of the approved rules as these apply to K-12 education situations

Questions:

- What are the circumstances that need to be clarified?
- o What written advice and guidance are needed so districts have access to model examples?
- o What are related issues? (e.g., ramifications of Running Start Legislation)
- o How much ANB should a distance, online, and technology class be worth?
- o What policies should districts have in place? (e.g., interlocal agreements)